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### Authorities Searching for 'Craigslist Con Man'

Investigators have identified three victims of suspect's scam, more may exist

**COLUMBUS, OH**—Columbus City Attorney Richard C. Pfeiffer, Jr. announced that Chad Crosby is the latest target of his "Fugitive of the Week" program after three warrants were issued for the 28-year-old Mifflin Township resident's arrest. Crosby is wanted for failing to appear in court to answer a series of theft charges brought against him for allegedly scamming victims via the classified advertisement website, Craigslist.

"If we are provided enough credible evidence and have victims willing to step forward, we can pursue theft by deception or other related charges in cases like this," said City Attorney Richard C. Pfeiffer, Jr.

In three instances known to investigators, Crosby is accused of using a Craigslist ad offering low-cost car repair services to identify potential victims. Crosby allegedly used his parents' house to meet one of his victims and a Bob Evans parking lot for another. He met a third victim at the victim's residence. In all three cases, Crosby reportedly looked over the cars and asked for cash in advance under the guise of needing to purchase parts. According to reports, Crosby claimed he worked for an auto repair shop and also could get a good deal on parts from "his brother who worked at a [car] dealership."

It appears Crosby had been fired from the repair shop a year earlier and it's unclear if he has a brother. The victims say Crosby took their money but never performed the work or refunded their money. According to investigators, he made various excuses why the repairs were being delayed until he ultimately stopped answering the victims' calls.

"I can't say we're dealing with a criminal mastermind here, but this is a good reminder for people to be cautious when making arrangements via the Internet," said Assistant City Prosecutor Bill R. Hedrick, who leads the fugitive apprehension program on Pfeiffer's behalf. "If you're going to use Craigslist, be careful or you might end up on Chad's list of victims."

Crosby also has an open warrant dating back to 2010 for passing bad checks.

Anyone with information on Chad Edward Crosby is asked to contact Bill Hedrick at 614.645.8874 or brhedrick@columbus.gov.

As always, the subjects of the City Attorney's "Fugitive of the Week" program are strongly encouraged to seek legal counsel and turn themselves in. The <u>Columbus Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service</u> can be reached at 614.221.0754 and the <u>Franklin County Public Defender's Office</u> can be reached at 614.525.3194.

# WANTED



## CHAD CROSBY

**DOB:** 7/5/1984 (Age 28)

Height: 6'2" Weight: 160 Hair: Brown Eyes: Green

#### **Last Known Address:**

3909 Agler Rd. Columbus, Ohio 43219

#### Case Number(s):

2010 CRB 017880 2012 CRB 003223 2012 CRB 003703 2012 CRB 005899

#### Charge(s):

2913.02(A1) – Theft (three counts) 2913.11 – Passing Bad Checks